

A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

The Y is a nonprofit like no other. In 10,000 neighborhoods across the nation, we have the presence and partnerships to promise and deliver positive change. The Harris YMCA brings more than 25,000 people of all ages and backgrounds together in meaningful and transformative ways. Our Y's impact is especially evident when it comes to children, with thousands participating in day camp, preschool, afterschool, teen leadership and sports. Yet there is more to do. The future of our community depends on the success of our children and the health of our families. Together, we have an extraordinary opportunity to ensure a brighter future for all.

Everyone has a role to play. And with your help, we can do so much more.

Sincerely,

Chris Thomas
Board Chair

Kelly Rogers
Executive Director

LEARN MORE:

Katy Bullock

Sr. Director, Community Support

HARRIS | HARRIS EXPRESS | McCROREY YMCAs

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The Y. So Much More™

YMCA Mission: To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.



**NURTURING KIDS.
INSPIRING COMMUNITIES.**



THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE
CATO EDUCATION CENTER
AT THE HARRIS YMCA

THE NEED

Currently, one out of five children participating in programs at the Harris YMCA receives scholarship support. Studies show, without programs like those offered at the Y:



- Children spend more than **seven hours a day** watching TV, playing video games or surfing the web*
- **One in three kids** is overweight or obese**
- **One of four children** will not graduate on time or at all***

Source: *<http://www.kff.org/entmedia/upload/8010.pdf>, ** www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/obesity/facts.htm, *** Charlotte Observer, 2012

Since 1980, the Harris YMCA has provided a safe and healthy place for children to achieve their personal best academically, socially, emotionally and physically. Our enriching programs develop lifelong healthy habits, promote academic success and build strong character and self-reliance.



"The love and attention given to my son and his classmates is really second to none at Harris YMCA Preschool Academy. As the mom of a unique, fun-loving, energetic little boy, I really appreciate the staff's interaction with him. He is well on his way to becoming a person that demonstrates core YMCA values at home and elsewhere."

Lelah Jones-Olender, Preschool Parent

INSPIRE CONNECT THRIVE

The positive effects of our programs are celebrated so much that we face the difficulty of serving so many with limited facility space. With the support of corporate and individual donors like you, we plan to begin construction of the **Cato Education Center** to increase our capacity to serve.

We will be better equipped to drive academic achievement and inspire children through youth development programs including preschool, afterschool and day camp.

The center will also be used to deliver life-transforming programs to members of our community such as Teen Leadership Development, English as a Second Language, Parents as Teachers and Hispanos Unidos.



AN INVESTMENT IN OUR CHILDREN CHANGES OUR COMMUNITY

More than ever, families face new challenges that create a greater need for the work we do. Fortunately, we see opportunities for our volunteers, staff and generous donors like you to make a difference.

The Cato Education Center will help us to do what the Y does best- inspire children in our community to realize their potential and support adults and families in ways that improve quality of life. And with this undertaking comes an equally significant responsibility for all of us.



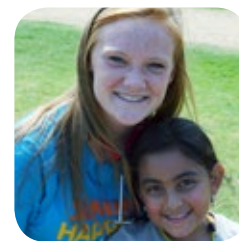
A PLACE TO GROW

FEATURES: 10 classrooms, teaching kitchen, open-air gymnasium, stage, flexible space for multi-age programs



Cato Education Center Cost

The total project cost for the Cato Education Center is \$3.5 million. This facility is made possible by generous corporate and individual donors.



Giving Opportunities

Donors giving \$5,000 and above will receive recognition on exterior and interior donor walls. Additional naming opportunities are available.

Ways to Give

- Gifts of cash
- One time or multi-year pledge
- Gifts of securities